

WE CLAIM:

1. A method of dynamically managing non-volatile memory items in a wireless device, said method comprising the steps of:
 - 5 checking the non-volatile memory items for a unique identifier item; if said unique identifier item exists, comparing an identifier stored within said unique identifier item with a software identifier located in software on said wireless device; and if said unique identifier item does not exist or if said identifier is different from said software identifier, performing the steps of:
 - 10 updating said non-volatile memory items; and writing said software identifier to said unique identifier item.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said identifier and said software identifier are operating system version numbers of software on said wireless device.
 - 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said writing step is performed after said updating step is complete.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said updating step allows rollback to a previous software version.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said updating step preferably creates a new non-volatile memory item rather than replacing an existing non-volatile memory item to facilitate rollback to said existing non-volatile memory item.
 - 25 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said updating step does not delete non-volatile memory items that have previously been created.
- 30 7. The method of claim 6, wherein non-volatile memory items managed under other NV management policies are not updated in said updating step.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein software on said wireless device includes a mapping from old non-volatile memory items to new non-volatile memory items.

9. A method for dynamically managing non-volatile memory items on a wireless device, said method allowing rollback to previous versions of software using said non-volatile memory items, said method comprising the steps of:

 checking the non-volatile memory items for a unique identifier item;

 if said unique identifier item exists, comparing an identifier stored within said unique identifier item with a software identifier located in software on said wireless device; and

 if said unique identifier item does not exist or if said identifier is different from said software identifier, performing the steps of:

 updating said non-volatile memory items, said updating step:

 creating a new non-volatile memory item rather than

15 replacing an existing non-volatile memory item to facilitate rollback;

 retaining non-volatile memory items that have previously been created; and

 avoiding non-volatile memory items created by default or refurbished non-volatile memory files; and

20 writing said software identifier to said unique identifier item, whereby said creating, retaining, and avoiding steps in said updating step allow rollback to previous versions of software on said wireless device.

10. A wireless communications device comprising:

25 a receiver for receiving signals;

 a transmitter for transmitting signals;

 a digital signal processor for processing signals to be sent on said transmitter and received on said receiver;

 a microprocessor communicating with said digital signal processor;

30 non-volatile memory having program storage and non-volatile memory items, said non-volatile memory communicating with said microprocessor; and

input and output subsystems interacting with said microprocessor, wherein said microprocessor includes means for checking said non-volatile memory items for a unique identifier item, comparing an identifier stored within said unique identifier item with a software identifier located in software in said program storage if said unique identifier item exists; and if said unique identifier item does not exist or if said identifier is different from said software identifier, means for performing the steps of: updating said non-volatile memory items; and writing said software identifier to said unique identifier item.

10 11. The wireless device of claim 10, wherein said identifier and said software identifier are operating system version numbers of software in said program storage.

12. The wireless device of claim 10, wherein said updating means allows
15 rollback to a previous software version.

13. The wireless device of claim 12, wherein said updating means preferably creates a new non-volatile memory item rather than replacing an existing non-volatile memory item to facilitate rollback to said existing non-volatile memory
20 item.

14. The wireless device of claim 13, wherein said updating means does not delete non-volatile memory items that have previously been created.

25 15. The wireless device of claim 14, wherein non-volatile memory items managed under other NV management policies are not updated by said updating means.